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Washington, D. C. 20505

7 May 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR : The Honorable Zbigniew Brzezinski
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

SUBJECT : Use of Unwitting [] Persons in Covert
Action Activity []

1. This memorandum has been prepared at the behest of the Intelligence Oversight Board and is intended to provide you and the SCC with supplementary background data concerning an ongoing covert action activity which has previously been the subject of a Presidential finding of 7 June 1978 approving the program pursuant to Section 662 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

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The President's approval of this program on 7 June 1978 was based on information provided to the SCC

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2. Following a recent internal review of the program, I was advised for the first time of two particular aspects of the operations [] which apparently have not been explicitly delineated to date in any of the background materials provided to the SCC describing this particular covert action activity.

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: DEC 2002

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3. In March of this year, CIA brought these matters to the attention of the Intelligence Oversight Board (IOB). Although our General Counsel had concluded that there was no illegality or impropriety involved in either the unwitting role played by [redacted] persons [redacted]

[redacted] we thought it necessary and appropriate under the circumstances to solicit the independent views of IOB. The Board responded on 13 April by stating that it had "no reason to question" the General Counsel's findings and conclusions; at the same time, IOB stated that the unwitting involvement of [redacted] persons in the activity "is a factor relevant to SCC consideration and should have been brought to the attention of the SCC, as well as the DCI, at the time that the activity was reviewed" prior to its submission to the President. The Board's response closed by urging that this matter be reported to the SCC for its "prompt consideration."

4. Accordingly, I trust that the above will suffice to adequately apprise you and the SCC of these additional details of the activities [redacted] I will be happy, of course, to provide any additional information as you may require. Given IOB's acceptance of the findings of the CIA General Counsel and pending any further guidance from the SCC, we do not believe at this time that any changes in the modus operandi [redacted] are required.


STANSFIELD TURNER

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